



CRS Report for Congress

National Guard Personnel and Deployments: Fact Sheet

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Summary

The National Guard is an increasingly vital component in the defense and security of the United States. Its federal role has grown with its major roles in U.S. and coalition country defense operations worldwide over the past several years. The Guard has been deployed in significant numbers in the Global War On Terrorism (GWOT) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) as a full-scale partner in the armed services Total Force policy. Meanwhile, in May 2006, over 6,000 National Guard personnel were authorized to be sent to the southern border region of the United States to temporarily assist in interdicting illegal aliens. As of January 5, 2007, at least 5,670 National Guard forces were deployed for this border security operation (Operation Jump Start). This report briefly presents statistical information on the National Guard's role in defense and security, including its deployments in support of GWOT, OIF, and Operation Jump Start.

Introduction

The National Guard has undertaken an increasingly significant role in the defense and security of the United States. Traditionally, the Guard has been both a domestic security force and a major component of U.S. combat power for overseas operations. It has become an integral force in the Global War On Terrorism (GWOT) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). Most recently the National Guard has been deployed under Operation Jump Start (OJS) on the southern border region of the United States to assist in interdicting illegal aliens crossing the border into the country.

Selected statistics on the force levels of the National Guard within the mix of U.S. military forces deployed in major ongoing operational missions are presented below. Information was developed and provided from official sources within the U.S. Department of Defense and the National Guard Bureau.

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Selected U.S. National Guard Statistics

Table 1. National Guard Strength
(as of 12/31/06)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Army National Guard (approximate) | 347,100 |
| Air National Guard (approximate) | 106,000 |
| Total Strength (approximate) | 453,100 |

Source: National Guard Bureau, January 10, 2007.

Table 2. Current Major National Guard Deployments
(as of 1/1/07)

| | |
|---|---------------|
| In Iraq — Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) | 14,618 |
| Army National Guard | 13,508 |
| Air National Guard | 1,110 |
| In Afghanistan — Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) | 4,932 |
| Army National Guard | 4,569 |
| Air National Guard | 363 |
| In the United States — Operation Jump Start (OJS) as of 1/5/07 | 5,670 |
| Army National Guard | 4, 536 |
| Air National Guard | 1,134 |

Source: Department of Defense, Office of Joint Chiefs of Staff, Legislative Affairs; January 2, 2007; and National Guard Bureau, Public Affairs, January 10, 2007.

**Total National Guard Personnel Ever Deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan
in Support of OIF and OEF,
September 2001 - November 30, 2006**

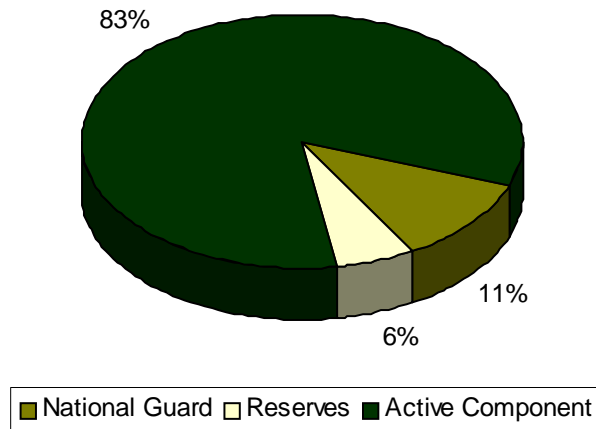
230,778

Source: Department of Defense, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Legislative Affairs, January 2007.

National Guard and Reserves in Iraq

The percentages of National Guard and Reserves troops in Iraq who are currently deployed as of January 1, 2007, are shown in **Figure 1** below.

Figure 1. Composition of U.S. Forces in Iraq by Component



Source: Percentage calculations by CRS. Data from Department of Defense, Office Joint Chiefs of Staff, Legislative Affairs, January 2007.

Table 3. Reserve and Active Component Forces in Iraq

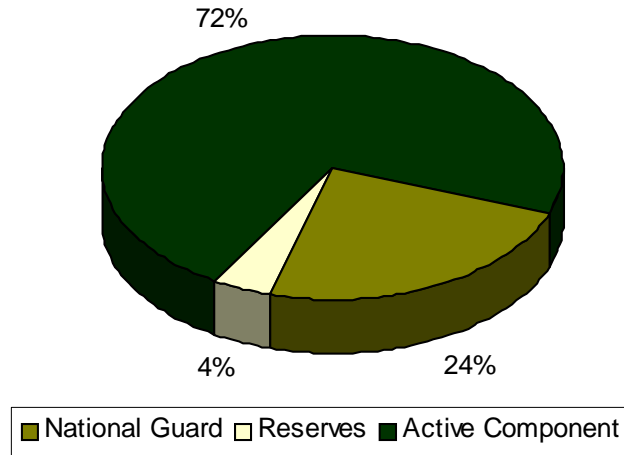
| | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Reserve Component | 22,273 |
| National Guard | 14,618 |
| Army National Guard | 13,508 |
| Air National Guard | 1,110 |
| Reserves | 7,655 |
| Army Reserve | 5,600 |
| Air Force Reserve | 412 |
| Navy Reserve | 639 |
| Marine Reserve | 1,004 |
| Active Component | 106,296 |
| Army | 72,598 |
| Air Force | 8,591 |
| Navy | 3,553 |
| Marines | 21,554 |

Source: Data from Department of Defense, Office Joint Chiefs of Staff, Legislative Affairs, January 2007.

National Guard and Reserves in Afghanistan

The percentages of National Guard and Reserves troops in Afghanistan who are currently deployed as of January 1, 2007, are shown in **Figure 2** below.

Figure 2. Composition of U.S. Forces in Afghanistan by Component



Source: Percentage calculations by CRS. Data from Department of Defense, Office of Joint Chiefs of Staff, Legislative Affairs, January 2007.

Table 4. Reserve and Active Component Forces in Afghanistan

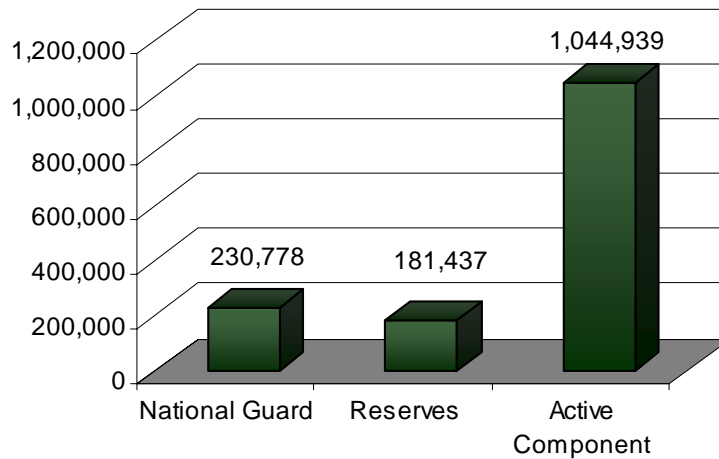
| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Reserve Component | 5,697 |
| National Guard | 4,932 |
| Army National Guard | 4,569 |
| Air National Guard | 363 |
| Reserves | 765 |
| Army Reserve | 622 |
| Air Force Reserve | 122 |
| Navy Reserve | 19 |
| Marine Reserve | 2 |
| Active Component | 15,250 |
| Army | 10,841 |
| Air Force | 3,240 |
| Navy | 926 |
| Marines | 243 |

Source: Data from Department of Defense, Office Joint Chiefs of Staff, Legislative Affairs, January 2007.

Total U.S. Forces Deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, September 2001 - November 30, 2006

Between September 2001 and November 30, 2006, a total of 230,778 National Guard, 181,437 Reserves, and 1,044,939 Active Component personnel have been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan (shown in **Figure 3** below).

Figure 3. Deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan



Source: Department of Defense, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Legislative Affairs, January 2007.